

Docket Number: 040258-0306939 Client Reference: EL01006CDC-DIV4

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

∰ Re the Application of

TADAHIRO OHMI, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2818

Application No.: 10/721,473

Examiner: David Vu

Filed: November 26, 2003

Confirmation No.: 8137

For: FLASH MEMORY DEVICE AND A FABRICATION PROCESS THEREOF, METHOD

OF FORMING A DIELECTRIC FILM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop: Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

JUL 0 2 2004

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the reference(s) has been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. The references listed on the attached PTO-1449 were cited by the Examiner in co-pending Application Serial No. 10/721,531 on May 7, 2004, which is the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance for that application.

I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any

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individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date: July 2, 2004

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

 Complete if Known

 Application Number
 10/721,473

 Filling Date
 11/26/2003

 First Named Inventor
 TADAHIRO OHMI

 Art Unit
 2818

 Examiner Name
 David Vu

 Attorney Docket Number
 040258-0306939

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant
		Number-Kind Code	2 (if known)			Figures Appear
	1	^{US-} 5068124	В1	November 26, 1991	Batey et al.	
	2	^{US-} 6461984	B1	October 8, 2002	Han et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³⁻ Number ⁴⁻ Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶			
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Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.